

ABSTRACT

This device has an optical pickup section, a first rack portion provided on the optical pickup section, a slide member having an opening/closing portion for opening/closing a facing surface of the objective lens to the optical disc and a second rack portion provided to be slidable on the first rack portion, and a driving mechanism having a driving gear which meshes with the first rack portion and the second rack portion. In this device, when the optical pickup section is moved to a predetermined position, the meshing state of the first rack portion with the driving gear is canceled and the second rack portion is driven by the driving gear to move the slide member, thereby moving the opening/closing portion from a position for opening the facing surface side of the objective lens to a position for closing the facing surface side.